

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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PM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

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P 150047Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS, SREF, VS, FR, US

SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES DESTINED FOR FRANCE

REF: PARIS 11894, STATE 110482

1. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LOWENSTEIN MET WITH FRENCH EMBASSY MINISTER DE LA GORCE MAY 14 TO URGE THAT FRENCH CONSULAR OFFICERS BE DETAILED TO WORK WITH VIETNAMESE REFUGEES SEEKING TO RESETTLE IN FRANCE. LOWENSTEIN INFORMED HIM THAT 700 REFUGEES AT CAMP PENDLETON (CALIFORNIA) AND ABOUT 30 AT FORT CHAFFEE (ARKANSAS) HAD INDICATED THEIR DESIRE TO APPLY FOR FRENCH VISAS. OFFICE SPACE WAS AVAILABLE AT EACH INSTALLATION FOR USE BY THE FRENCH, AND WE URGED THAT CONSULAR OFFICERS PROCEED TO THE TWO CAMPS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO RECEIVE VISA APPLICATIONS.

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2. DE LA GORCE RESPONDED THAT HE SAW NO REASON WHY OFFICERS FROM THE FRENCH CONSULATES GENERAL IN LOS ANGELES AND NEW ORLEANS COULD NOT BE SENT TO THE RESPECTIVE CENTERS HE PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THE MATTE AT ONCE AND TO KEEP US INFORMED. (DE LA GORCE VOLUNTEERED THAT FRANCE "INTENDED TO BE LIBERAL" IN APPLYING THE THREE CRITERIA ESTABLISHED FOR DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY OF INDOCHINA REFUGEES TO OBTAIN RESIDENCE IN FRANCE.)

3. CONCERNING TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT OF A FRENCH CONSULAR OFFICER TO GUAM, DE LA GORCE SAID THAT INSTRUCTIONS HAS JUST ARRIVED FROM THE QUAI ORDERING A VICE CONSUL AT SAN FRANCISCO TO PROCEED WITHOUT DELAY. KISSINGER

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